

www.thekabultimes.com | twitter.com/thekabultimes | info@thekabultimes.com | facebook.com/thekabultimes

THE KABUL TIMES

Founded in 1962 | Hoot 19-1403 Sunday 09 March 2025 INo: 294-Vol: LXII | DAILY

Kabul 13° Cloudy | Kandahar 23° Cloudy | Herat 18° Rain | Jalalabad 23° Cloudy | Mazar-e-Sharif 18° Partly cloudy | Bamyan -2° Rain and snow

Afghan women's modesty, dignity and Sharia-based rights IEA's top priority, Mujahid



KABUL: The Islamic Emirate has ensured the dignity, honor, and Sharia-based entitlements of women, the IEA spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid said in a statement on his X page Saturday.

Afghan women constitute an integral part of society as our mothers, sisters, daughters, and life partners, Mujahid said, adding that the Islamic Emirate assumes full responsibility for the provision and safeguarding of the rights enshrined for them under Islamic Sharia law.

He said: "Afghan women reside in a state of complete physical and psychological security. All manifestations of violence and mistreatment against women have been effectively curtailed."

"No individual possesses the authority to infringe upon women's rights or regard them with disdain.

It is incumbent upon the judicial bodies of the Islamic Emirate, alongside other pertinent institutions, to exert their utmost efforts in the protection of women's rights, guarantee their autonomy in marital decisions, uphold their entitlements to dowry and inheritance, and ensure comprehensive oversight of their legal protections," the IEA spokesman said.

All fundamental rights afforded to Afghan women have been safeguarded in strict accordance with Islamic Sharia law, as well as the cultural and traditional frameworks of Afghan society, Mujahid added. Nonetheless, it is imperative to acknowledge that the discourse on Afghan women's rights is situated within the specific context of an Islamic and Afghan society, which exhibits distinct divergences from Western societies and their cultural paradigms. **The Kabul Times**

Security situation has improved in Afghanistan, IEP



KABUL: The Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), in its 12th annual Global Terrorism Index 2025 report, stated the other day that the security situation has improved in Afghanistan.

"Afghanistan has not ranked among the top five countries most impacted by terrorism for the second consecutive year, instead placing ninth," the report said, adding that the country has dropped out of the top five most terrorism-affected nations for the second year in a row, marking its highest improvement since the index's inception. According to the report, Burkina Faso and Pakistan occupied the first and second positions in 2024.

The report highlighted that terrorism levels in Afghanistan have "significantly declined" since the Islamic Emirate's takeover, with the new rulers maintaining "internal stability."

The Kabul Times

Kabul, Ashgabat discuss strengthening bilateral relations



ASHGABAT: Fazal Mohammad Sabir, Afghan Ambassador to Turkmenistan, met with Batyr Amanov, Vice President of that country for Oil and Gas Affairs, to discuss enhancing bilateral relations, the embassy said in a statement the other day.

In the meeting, both sides discussed and exchanged views on the expansion of major infrastructure projects in the oil sector between the two countries, especially the implementation and investment in the TAPI project and increasing oil and gas transportation, the statement said.

The provision of facilities for the implementation of joint projects between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan has also been discussed in the meeting, the statement added. With the Islamic Emirate takeover, bilateral relations between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan have considerably improved. **The Kabul Times**

Pine nuts worth $14 million exported in past 11 months, ministry



KABUL: The Ministry of Industry and Commerce said Saturday in a statement that pine nuts worth $14 million have been exported to the world markets during the past 11 months.

The ministry's spokesman, Akhundzada Abdul Salam Jawad said: "Fortunately, we are directly connected to China, the United Arab Emirates, and other countries, and we are still connected with Russia, and our exports are mostly connected through Afghanistan, by air and ports."

He added that the country's pine nuts have mostly been exported to China, Austria, Jordan, the UAE, the United Kingdom, the United States, Italy, Australia, Germany and other foreign countries.

China is considered as a big and good market for Afghanistan pine nuts which is one of the top dry fruits of Afghanistan.

The antioxidant power of vitamin E contained in pine nuts may help keep one's skin healthy and young in appearance.

Additionally, regularly eating pine nuts or other seeds and nuts may help reduce the risk of diabetes and heart disease. Afghanistan's pine nuts are popular in the world and currently, 1kg of pine nuts is sold to 2,000 Afghani in Afghanistan markets.

The Kabul Times

Another 12 Afghan migrants released from Pakistani jails, official



ISLAMABAD: A total of 12 Afghan refugees have been released from prisons in Sindh province of the neighboring country of Pakistan and entered the country via the Chaman crossing, Mawlavi Abdul Jabbar Takhari, the Consul General of the Islamic Emirate in Karachi said Saturday.

"As a result of the efforts of the embassy of Afghanistan in Islamabad and the consulate in Karachi, 12 Afghans have been released from the prisons of the neighboring country and returned to the country via the Chaman crossing," Takhari said.

Meanwhile, some Afghan refugees living in Pakistan have complained about the problems and challenges in the host countries.

"Afghan refugees are being arrested, are suffering, and are imprisoned. We call on the current government to establish an organized program for the voluntary return of Afghan refugees from neighboring countries," said an Afghan migrant.

Recently, tens of thousands of Afghan prisoners have been released from different prisons of Pakistan who were imprisoned on charges of not having legal documents and returned to their country.

This comes after the Pakistani Interior Ministry ordered all "illegal foreigners" and Afghan Citizen Card (ACC) holders to leave the country by March 31, warning those who fail to leave will be deported starting from April 1 of this year.

The Kabul Times

Hundreds of families provided with potable water in Kunduz



KUNDUZ: A total of 350 families have been provided with potable water in the country's northern province of Kunduz, the provincial Rural Rehabilitation Department said in a statement Saturday.

According to the statement, a water supply network worth $145,000 has been constructed by DACAR in the Dash-e-Archi district of the province, providing 350 families with drinking water.

Meanwhile, the provincial Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock has announced the creation of job opportunities for more than 1,400 individuals in several districts of the province.

A program supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, aims to assist poor families while enhancing water resource management. Salahuddin Wahidi, head of agricultural affairs at the Kunduz Department, revealed that the program is being implemented in the districts of Aliabad, Khanabad, Kalbad, and Dasht-e-Archi. Wahidi stated that a total of $298,000 will be allocated as wages for 1,490 workers, with each participating family set to receive $200. **The Kabul Times**

Over 3,000 e-ID cards issued to Afghans in UAE, NSIA

Since the establishment of the Asan Khidmat (Easy Service) Center in the UAE, Afghan residents have gained access to a range of essential services.



KABUL: The National Statistics and Information Authority (NSIA) said Saturday that 3,450 Afghans living in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have received electronic ID cards through the Asan Khidmat (Easy Service) Center.

Additionally, 270 individuals have accessed post-distribution services, while another 650 have received assistance with paper ID card corrections, the authority said.

Since the establishment of the Asan Khidmat (Easy Service) Center in the UAE, Afghan residents have gained access to a range of essential services.

The Kabul Times

International-Daily
WWW.TheKabulTimes.com
Uzair Baryalay, Director of Govt. Dailies
Email: Atvaishan@gmail.com
Editor-in-Chief, Nik Mohammad Nikmal
Email: Nikmal@TheKabulTimes.com
Mob: (+93)700 208 103
Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Fathulbari Akhgar
Mob: (+93)748 076 223
Distribution: 0202 312 509-(+93)766 044 966)
Graphic designers: Baktash Shiabani, Ali and Habibullah Aiman
Translators: Abdul Baqi Haqyar, Noor Ahmad and Hamid Jhwok
Cartoonist: Sayed Hassan Samedi
Address: 8th PD, Olympic Square, East of Chaman-e-Huzori, Kabul, Afghanistan

Food for thought

Today's generation guarantees our bright future

Alternative crops, improved seeds help farmers avoid poppy cultivation

After the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan, the collapse of U.S.-backed governments, and the return of the Islamic Emirate to power in mid-August 2021, poppy cultivation saw a considerable decline in the country.

Despite the international persistence to ban poppy cultivation and prevent drug trafficking in Afghanistan, the past governments, during twenty long years of their tenure, failed to uproot the heinous phenomenon countrywide. But, after the power resumption by the Islamic Emirate and the announcement of a ban on drug cultivation, use, and trafficking, now no areas of the country are seen planted poppy due to serious fighting against the poppy-planting farmers, and with passing each day the graph of opium is being reduced.

The most important issue is that alternative crops, including improved seeds, should be provided for the farmers to help them avoid poppy cultivation.

The government should draw the attention of the world countries and international aid organizations to cooperate with the Afghan farmers by providing them with alternative crops.

In this respect, the pledge of the deputy ambassador of Turkiye in Kabul, during a ceremony, announced the continuation of his country's humanitarian aid and the provision of alternative crops to opium poppy cultivation in the country.

Following the program, which was organized by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in the country's Logar province, they distributed improved seeds and chemical fertilizers among farmers.

The government and the people of Afghanistan, particularly the farmers, welcome the aid provided by the friendly Turkish country, as the deputy Turkish ambassador assured that his country continues to provide humanitarian and development aid to the Afghan people to the best of its ability.

The country's Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock also said at the ceremony that efforts were underway to mechanize Afghanistan's agriculture sector through the construction of 700 small water reservoirs, as work on the project is currently underway, good news for the country's farmers that the country's officials were striving to build reservoirs in all areas of Afghanistan facing water shortages and to manage water resources, as water levels are declining countrywide.

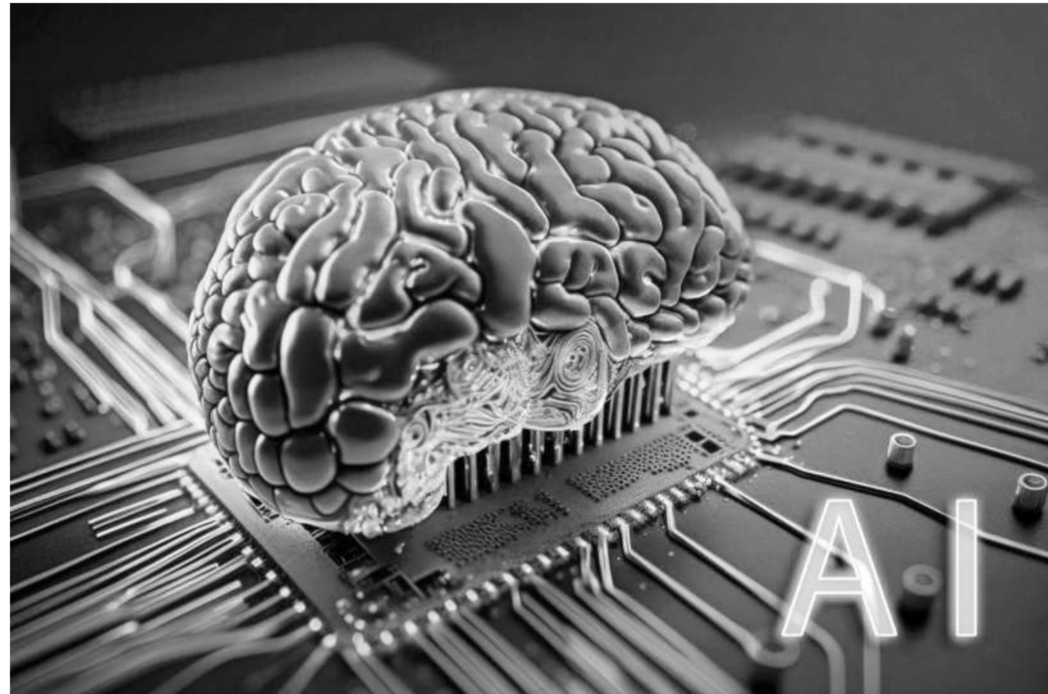
It is clear that the Islamic Emirate has made significant efforts in combating opium poppy and other narcotics and the related sector and, in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, managed to launch a seed project on 500 acres of land in Kandahar. The planting season is approaching, and work has been said to begin soon. Also, the five-year alternative crop plan, managed by the ministry, has been shared with donor organizations and aiding countries to provide substantial assistance to farmers for alternative cultivation.

In conclusion, any move to provide crop alternatives for poppy cultivation for the country's farmers by the related organs in cooperation with the aid organization and friendly countries helps the prevention process of opium poppy and dealing, using, and trafficking of the vicious phenomenon.

AI in Afghanistan: Revolutionizing the future or replacing the workforce?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is one of the most significant technological advancements of our time, profoundly impacting human societies.

This technology is transforming the way we live, work, learn, and even think. Many developed and developing countries are leveraging AI to improve their economies, healthcare systems, education, and industries.



Despite its numerous challenges, Afghanistan can also utilize AI to drive economic and scientific progress.

However, a pressing question remains: Is artificial intelligence an opportunity for Afghanistan's development, or does it pose a threat to the workforce?

This article explores this topic, aiming to provide a comprehensive analysis of both the opportunities and challenges AI presents in Afghanistan.

One of the most critical areas where AI can have a significant impact is the healthcare sector. Afghanistan faces a shortage of doctors and medical equipment, and many remote areas lack access to healthcare services.

AI can help address this issue through the development of disease diagnosis systems, telemedicine, and medical robots.

For instance, machine learning algorithms can analyze medical images, such as X-rays and MRIs, to provide diagnostic insights. Furthermore, AI-powered medical chatbots can offer patients initial health advice, reducing the burden on healthcare centers and improving the quality of medical care across the country.

Agriculture, which forms the backbone of Afghanistan's economy, can also benefit from AI. As an agricultural country, Afghanistan relies heavily on farming for livelihoods. AI systems can assist farmers in optimizing agricultural processes, reducing crop losses, and improving productivity.

For example, weather and soil data analysis can help farmers determine the best time for planting and harvesting. Moreover, AI-powered plant disease detection systems can help prevent the spread of agricultural pests. These advancements can contribute to economic growth and enhance food security in the country.

Beyond healthcare and agriculture, another crucial area for AI implementation in Afghanistan is education.

The country's education system faces multiple challenges, including a shortage of qualified teachers and limited access to educational resources. AI-driven technologies can offer effective solutions to these issues.

For instance, intelligent learning programs can automatically assess students' knowledge levels and provide customized educational materials based on their abilities.

Besides, remote learning and online platforms can connect students in underprivileged areas with better educational resources. These advancements could significantly improve literacy rates and scientific skills across Afghanistan.

However, despite these opportunities, concerns exist regarding the negative impacts of AI on Afghanistan's workforce.

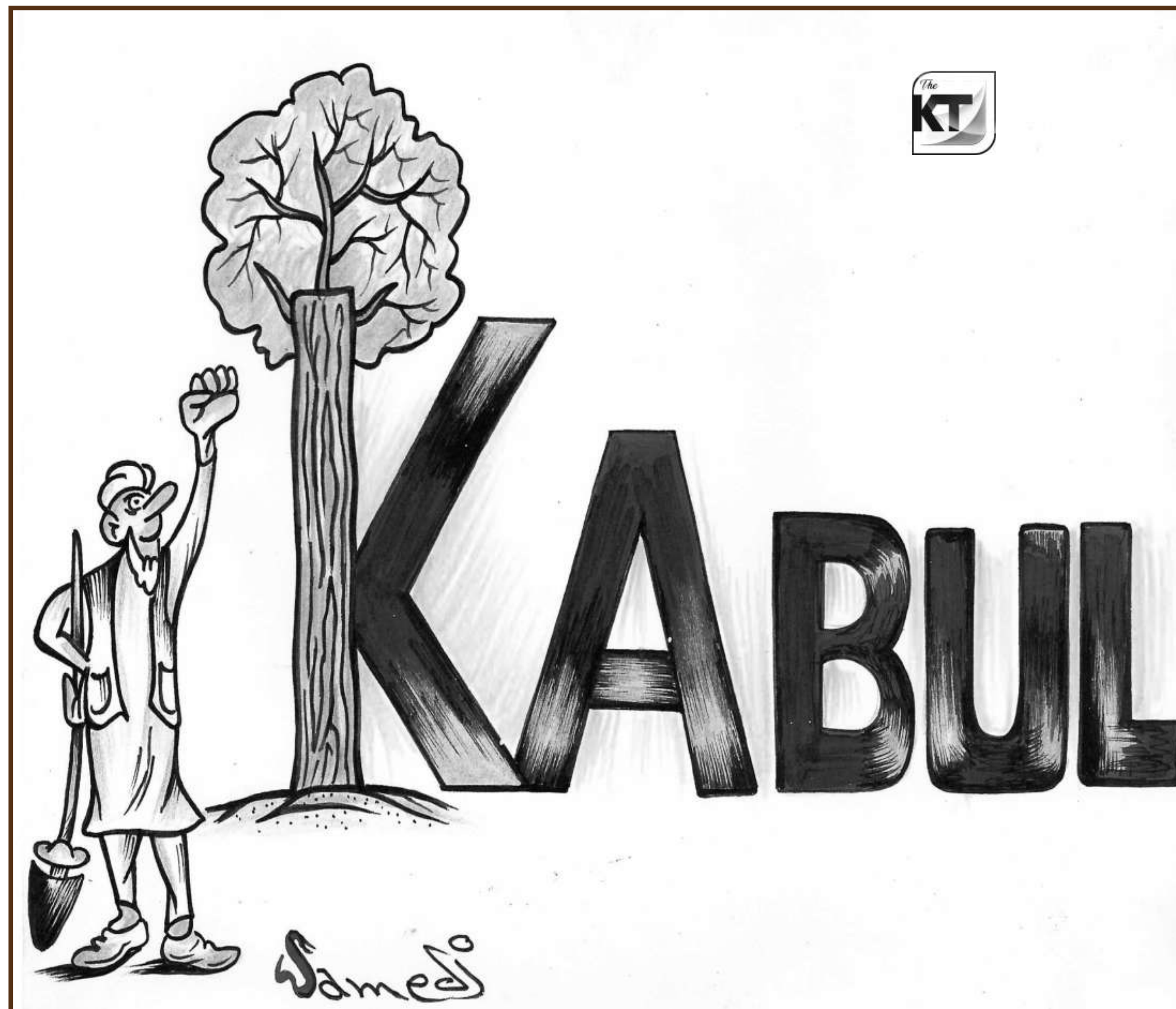
One major concern is the potential loss of traditional jobs. Many Afghans are employed in the service, manufacturing, and agricultural sectors, and the introduction of automation technologies could replace human labor in these fields.

For example, if smart machinery is widely adopted in agriculture, some farmworkers may lose their jobs. Similarly, in the manufacturing and industrial sectors, the use of robots and automated systems could reduce the demand for human workers. Without proper planning, this trend could lead to increased unemployment and economic inequality.

To mitigate the negative effects of AI on the job market, Afghanistan must invest in education and skill development. If the workforce is equipped with digital skills and programming knowledge, they can take advantage of the new opportunities created by AI. In many countries, technology-related skills have become an integral part of the education system, and Afghanistan can adopt a similar approach to prepare its workforce for the future. Establishing specialized training centers in AI, data analysis, and programming can help people actively participate in the digital economy and create new job opportunities.

Moreover, the Afghan government should develop appropriate policies to manage the implementation of AI in the country. Many nations have introduced regulations to control AI usage and prevent widespread unemployment and its negative consequences. The government can support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by implementing AI in ways that do not completely replace human workers. In addition, taxing jobs performed by machines could generate the necessary funds to invest in workforce education and retraining programs.

Aburagheb Amani



When might meets belief; a turning point in Islamic history

Among the Quraysh, the most powerful tribe of Mecca, there was a man named Umar ibn Al-Khattab. Initially, he was one of the fiercest enemies of Islam, but his transformation became so profound that Islam could hardly be mentioned without his name.



Umar belonged to the Adi clan, a branch of Quraysh. The Quraysh tribe was known for its political leadership, skilled warriors, and successful traders.

Many of its members were highly respected for their intelligence, strategic thinking, and ability to lead. Umar came from a family with a strong reputation for governance and diplomacy.

From a young age, Umar was raised among men of politics and war. He had a tall stature, a powerful physique, and an imposing presence. His physical strength and courage made him an undefeated wrestler and a fearless warrior in battle.

Before embracing Islam, Umar was recognized as one of the leading figures of Quraysh. He often served as an envoy, representing his tribe in negotiations with rival tribes. His eloquence, decisiveness, and fearlessness made him an excellent diplomat. Whenever a dispute arose between Quraysh and other tribes, Umar was sent to resolve the conflict. He never backed down in the face of threats and was known for his unwavering stance in negotiations.

Apart from politics, Umar was also a successful businessman. Like many Quraysh traders, he frequently traveled to Yemen and the Levant, making a significant fortune from trade. His sharp mind, organizational skills, and attention to detail made him a prosperous merchant. Additionally, his strong oratory skills earned him great respect in Quraysh gatherings, where his opinions carried considerable weight.

However, when Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) publicly called people to Islam, Umar became one of its most staunch opponents. To him, Islam was nothing more than a threat to the traditions and social order of Quraysh.

When Umar saw that slaves, the weak, and the youth of Mecca were accepting Islam, his anger grew. He took an active role in persecuting Muslims and even tortured some of them to deter others from joining the new faith.

His hatred for Islam reached such an extreme that he resolved to kill the Prophet himself. Convinced that eliminating Mohammad (PBUH) would end Islam, he set out with a sword in hand, intending to execute his plan.

Despite his deep hostility toward Islam, fate had a different path for Umar. Through a series of events that led him to reflect on the truth of the message, he experienced a profound transformation. Eventually, he declared his faith and embraced Islam. His conversion was a moment of great significance for the Muslim community.

The Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) himself acknowledged the impact of Umar's acceptance of Islam, stating, "From the time Umar embraced Islam, we became strong and honored." (Bukhari)

With his characteristic courage and determination, Umar became one of the greatest defenders of Islam. He openly practiced his faith, fearlessly standing up against the enemies of Islam. His presence strengthened the Muslim community, making it more confident and resilient in the face of oppression.

After becoming a Muslim, Umar was no longer the same man he once was. His faith transformed him from a persecutor into a protector of Islam. He played a vital role in the political and intellectual battles that laid the foundation for the Islamic State. Unafraid of criticism or opposition, he worked tirelessly to strengthen Islam and spread the Prophet's message.

Umar's leadership qualities, intelligence, and fearlessness became instrumental in the growth of Islam. His story is a testament to the power of faith and transformation. Once an enemy of Islam, he became one of its greatest supporters, proving that true guidance can change even the strongest adversary into a devoted believer.

His journey from ignorance to enlightenment, from opposition to advocacy, and from might to justice remains one of the most inspiring transformations in Islamic history. **Fida Mohammad**

Cattle farms in Kandahar; farmers await a stable market for milk

Afghanistan is known as an agricultural country. People are engaged in farming and livestock in various provinces. In the southern province of Kandahar, there are currently 650 cattle farms, producing 140,000 metric tons of milk annually.



Cattle farm owners in the province say that if a proper market is established for their milk, dairy farming would be more profitable than any other type of business.

Usman, a cattle farm owner in the Panjwai district of Kandahar, says he currently has 35 cows on his farm, with an investment exceeding 4 million Afghanis. Although his farm is expanding, he considers the lack of a stable market for milk one of the most significant challenges. He says, "We have 35 cows on this farm and have invested 4 million Afghanis, but our biggest problem is the lack of a market. Milk prices are unstable—one day, they are high, and the next day, they drop." Similarly, several other cattle farm owners in the province have expressed the same concerns, saying that dairy farming is their only source of income. They urge the government to help create a stable market for their milk.

According to these farmers, the import of powdered milk from foreign countries has further weakened the market for locally produced fresh milk.

They demand that the government either halt the import of powdered milk or impose higher tariffs on it.

One farmer states, "Our only demand is to ban powdered milk imports. If that is not possible, then at least increase the import tariffs. Also, there should be a clear distinction between natural and powdered milk." Some healthcare professionals emphasize the benefits of fresh cow's milk over powdered milk and encourage people to use fresh milk at home.

Rahmatullah Amin, a nutrition specialist in Kandahar, says fresh milk contains natural proteins, calcium, vitamins, and healthy fats, which are essential for the human body.

He explains that cow's milk undergoes no chemical alterations, is easily digestible, and contains natural antibodies that help maintain human health more effectively than powdered milk.

He urges people to choose fresh milk, stating, "Fresh milk contains natural proteins, calcium, vitamins, and healthy fats. It is easily digestible and has numerous health benefits, so people should buy fresh cow's milk."

Officials from Kandahar's Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock state that the province's existing cattle farms produce approximately 120,000 liters of milk daily, most of which is consumed within Kandahar, while some are sent to markets in other provinces.

Attiqullah, the director of livestock at the department, also considers creating a market for farm-produced milk an essential issue.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock officials say they are working on various strategies to facilitate market access for dairy farmers in Kandahar.

Mawlavi Sadar Azam Usmani, the technical deputy of the ministry, says that the Islamic Emirate has increased import tariffs on powdered milk from 8% to 30% to support local dairy farmers.

He states, "We are trying to impose more restrictions on imports to promote livestock farming. Our goal is to strengthen farmers and increase domestic production."

Not only in Kandahar but across Afghanistan, dairy farmers urge the government to establish a proper market for their dairy products.

Ehsanullah Wolasmal

Neighbors should consider human rights standards when implementing repatriation measures



As part of the plan to repatriate Afghan refugees, the government of Pakistan has officially set March 31 as the deadline for Afghan Citizen Card (ACC) holders to leave Pakistan voluntarily, with a renewed warning by the country's interior ministry that mass deportations would commence afterward.

Based on Pakistani media reports, the Afghan Citizen Card holders staying in Islamabad and Rawalpindi would be moved out and sent back to Afghanistan as part of a multiphase relocation plan for Afghan migrants, including those awaiting resettlement in third countries.

The reports say that Proof of Registration (POR) card holders, who had been allowed an extended stay in the country till June 30, 2025, would be relocated from Islamabad and Rawalpindi to some other area.

A directive to this effect has been issued by the Pakistan Prime Minister's Office, according to the reports.

The Afghan Citizen Card holders will be immediately relocated as part of Phase-I alongside undocumented Afghans and eventually repatriated to Afghanistan.

In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan has been tasked with coordinating with foreign embassies to expedite their relocation.

If immediate arrangements are not made, these individuals will also be repatriated to Afghanistan.

In the meantime, in a joint statement, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said they were seeking clarity over the modality and timeframe of this relocation.

Both agencies urged Pakistan to consider human rights standards when implementing relocation measures.

This includes ensuring due process for legal refugees and economic migrants who have been granted Afghan Citizen Cards by Pakistan in collaboration with IOM, the statement explained.

"Forced return to Afghanistan could place some people at increased risk.

We urge Pakistan to continue to provide safety to Afghans at risk, irrespective of their documentation status," said Philippa Candler, the UNHCR country representative.

Mio Sato, the IOM chief of mission in Islamabad, said her organization was committed to working with the Pakistani government and UNHCR to develop a mechanism to register, manage and screen Afghan nationals in Pakistan.

"This will open the door to tailored solutions, including international protection to those in need and pathways for Afghan nationals with longstanding socioeconomic and family ties in the country," she said.

The Islamic Emirate has also called on the neighboring countries to exercise patience towards Afghan refugees.

The acting Minister of Refugees and Repatriations, Mawlavi Abdul Kabir, during his recent meeting with Iranian Ambassador Alireza Begdali and Pakistani Ambassador Obaid-ul Rehman Nizamani in Kabul, urged them to exercise patience and compassion towards Afghan migrants.

In the meeting, Mawlavi Kabir called upon the host countries to adhere to international refugee principles and ensure humane treatment for Afghan nationals, acknowledging the Islamic Emirate's encouragement for refugees to return home but cautioned that the current conditions in Afghanistan do not support large-scale repatriation.

Mawlavi Kabir pointed out that the proposed deadline for deporting all Afghan refugees from Pakistan is unrealistic.

The Islamic Emirate is not in favor of the forced deportation of large-scale of Afghan refugees' repatriation by the host countries and has urged both Pakistan and Iran to exercise patience toward Afghan refugees.

In recent months, Afghan refugees have faced with lots of challenges, particularly forced deportation from neighboring countries.

It is the time for both Afghanistan and Iran to work together to address the challenges faced by Afghan refugees there.

Mukhtar Safi

Moderation; the secret of prosperity and development of Islamic society

Islam recognizes the line which separates moderation and extremism, even in matters of the religion itself.

If a Muslim transgresses this 'limit' where it involves harm and making the religion more difficult beyond our capacity, it is then considered to be going against the religion. Allah Almighty says in the Quran, "Do not exaggerate in your religion." (Surah An-Nisa, 4:171)

This illustrates that Islamic teachings are against extremism. Instead, Islam promotes mercy, kindness, moderation, fairness and justice. Although the verse above was originally directed to the people of the book (Jews and Christians), its message can be related to all readers, which is to stay away from extremism

Extremism, narrow-mindedness, excess and paucity in individual and social life are meaningless and harmful actions, especially for those who express their thoughts, opinions, and views in social, religious, and national affairs.

The blessed religion of Islam is a religion of great breadth, mercy, and ease, which strongly condemns unnecessary violence, strictness, and narrow-mindedness.

But we should not forget that just as Islam condemns violence and excess, it also rejects extremism, recklessness, excessive leniency and tolerance. Islam is a moderate religion; therefore, moderation is its fundamental principle.

The path of moderation is to be considered as the best and most appreciated policy. One of the basic principles of Islamic teachings is: "Moderation is the best in all things".

But, unfortunately, some people in our society have become victims of violence, narrow-mindedness and rigidity, while others have become victims of indifference, excessive softness and tolerance.

People with moderate and fair views are few in number. If we first consider and think about events, cases and issues, hold meetings and go for consultations, and jointly find a moderate and common path to address them in accordance with the teachings of Islam; then there will be no differences, there will be no conflict of opinions and views among us, and the ordinary Muslim nation will be also free from the shackles of hesitation, doubt and suspicion.

It is beautiful that the concept of moderation in Islam allows one to find balance in every action whether it is religious, social or private matters.

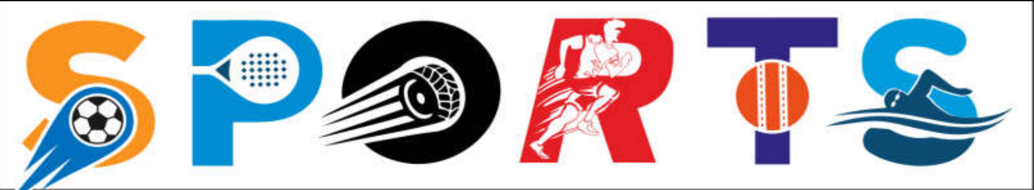
It is the middle path between two ends of extremes: exaggeration and deficiency. Striving for moderation can be very challenging, but if we strive hard to hold on to this golden principle in all aspects and areas, it can be the key to success in this world and hereafter.

May Allah Almighty give us the will and desire to understand and master the art of moderation in both worldly and religious matters.

Sayed Sharif

The KT THE KABUL TIMES DAILY
Hoot 19-1403 Sunday 09 March 2025 INo: 294-Vol: LXII

USD	GBP	INR	PKR	EUR	IRR	AED
01	01	1000	1000	01	1000	01
AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN
71.10	91.74	816	244	77.05	01.29	19.36



Afghanistan faces defeat against Brazil in Four-Nation Futsal Tournament

The Afghan national futsal team suffered a 4-1 defeat against Brazil in their second match of the Four-Nation Futsal Tournament. The match, held on Saturday, saw Brazil, the reigning world champions, dominate the game and secure a convincing victory over Afghanistan.



Despite their best efforts, the Afghan players were unable to match Brazil's pace and tactical superiority. However, Afghanistan remains in the competition, with their next challenge set against Iran in their third match of the tournament. Earlier in the tournament, Afghanistan had a strong start, securing a victory against Greenland in their opening match. The win had raised hopes for a competitive performance in the subsequent games, but the loss to Brazil has now increased the pressure on the Afghan squad as they prepare to face Iran.

The Four-Nation Futsal Tournament features teams from Brazil, Afghanistan, Iran, and Greenland and is being hosted in Brazil.

The competition serves as a crucial opportunity for Afghanistan to test its skills against some of the world's top futsal teams.

With one win and one loss so far, Afghanistan will be looking to bounce back in their upcoming match against Iran. A victory in that game would significantly boost their chances of advancing further in the tournament. Fans and analysts will be closely watching the team's performance as they aim to regain momentum and prove their strength on the international stage.

The Kabul Times

Afghanistan Muay Thai team misses World Championships over visa issues



Afghanistan's national Muay Thai team was unable to participate in the 20th edition of the World Muay Thai Championships due to visa complications and a lack of coordination between the Muay Thai federations of Afghanistan and Thailand.

However, due to miscommunication between the federations of both countries, their visas were not issued, preventing them from competing in the prestigious tournament.

The Afghan delegation was supposed to consist of two national athletes and one coach, representing the country at the international event.

The World Muay Thai Championships, featuring participants from 84 countries, officially kicks off on Sunday in Bangkok, Thailand. The absence of Afghanistan's fighters in the competition is seen as a missed opportunity for the country's athletes to showcase their skills on the global stage.

This setback has raised concerns about the management and coordination of Afghan sports federations, particularly in facilitating international participation for athletes. It also highlights the challenges Afghan sports teams face, especially in securing travel documents amid the country's ongoing political and logistical difficulties.

Despite this unfortunate situation, Afghanistan remains committed to developing its presence in combat sports, and athletes hope for better coordination and support in future international competitions.

The Kabul Times

FIFA unveils 2025 Club World Cup at the White House

The FIFA Club World Cup 2025 was officially presented at the White House in the presence of U.S. President Donald Trump. The event marked a significant moment for the tournament, which is set to be hosted in the United States from June 15 to July 13, 2025.

During the ceremony, President Trump expressed his strong support for the upcoming football events and announced that a special task force would be formed to oversee preparations for both the 2025 Club World Cup and the 2026 FIFA World Cup, which will also be held in North America.

The 2025 FIFA Club World Cup will feature 32 teams, divided into eight groups, competing for the prestigious title. This expanded format is expected to bring together the best football clubs from around the world, offering fans a thrilling competition.

As the tournament approaches, the United States is gearing up to host a global spectacle, with preparations already underway to ensure a successful and memorable event. The White House presentation of the tournament further highlights the significance of football's growing influence in the U.S. and its commitment to hosting major sporting events.

With teams and fans eagerly anticipating the first-ever expanded Club World Cup, all eyes will be on the United States in 2025 as it welcomes the world's top clubs for a month-long football extravaganza.

The Kabul Times



At least 14 people killed in overnight attacks in eastern Ukraine

At least 14 people have been killed in overnight attacks on Ukraine's eastern region.

Ukraine's emergency service said on Saturday that Russian forces hit the town of Dobropillia in the eastern Donetsk region on Friday night, killing 11 people and wounding 30.



Emergency services added that eight five-storey apartment buildings, an administrative building, and 30 cars were damaged.

At least three people were killed and seven injured after a Russian drone attack on a civilian building in Bogodukhiv, Kharkiv, in eastern Ukraine, the governor of Kharkiv, Oleh Synehubov, wrote on Telegram.

In Odesa, a drone attack resulted in several fires, which affected a hangar with agricultural equipment, a service station building, an auto parts store, solar panels held in an open area and a four-storey industrial building.

At the same time, Alexander Drozdenko, governor of the Leningrad region, said on Saturday that a tank at the Kirishi refinery, one of Russia's largest, was damaged by falling debris after a Ukrainian drone was shot down.

The overnight attacks came as Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he was working with the United States to "accelerate peace".

"We will do a lot of work here in Europe, with the US, and in Saudi Arabia – we are preparing a meeting to accelerate peace and strengthen the foundations of security," he wrote on X on Friday night.

"Today, intense work with President Trump's team has been ongoing at various levels – numerous calls.

The topic is clear – peace as soon as possible, security as reliably as possible. Ukraine is fully committed to a constructive approach."

On Friday, Trump told reporters that it was "easier" to deal with Russia to secure an end to the three-year-long war than Ukraine, but he had said earlier that he was "strongly considering" sanctions on Russia due to its attacks.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha spoke to his US counterpart, Secretary of State Marco Rubio, before the planned Ukraine-US negotiations in Saudi Arabia.

During the call, Sybiha wrote on X on Friday that the two officials discussed the upcoming meeting and ways to "advance our bilateral cooperation".

Zelenskyy is expected to arrive in Saudi Arabia on Monday to talk to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

On Tuesday, Ukrainian officials are expected to hold new talks with their US counterparts in the country following a tense televised dispute between Trump and Zelenskyy at the end of February.

aljazeera

Twelve injured in shooting at Toronto pub

A dozen people have been injured in a shooting at a Toronto pub and three suspects are still at large, police in the Canadian city say.

The shooting took place at 22:39 on Friday local time (03:39 GMT Saturday) near Scarborough city centre in eastern Toronto.

Authorities said 12 people were injured, including six with gunshot wounds. The injuries were non-life-threatening. The victims ranged in age from 20s to mid-50s.

Police said there were three male shooting suspects. Earlier, they said that one suspect, wearing a black balaclava, had been seen fleeing the scene in a silver car.

Police said they are deploying all available resources to locate and arrest those responsible.

"I am deeply troubled to hear reports of a shooting at a pub in Scarborough," Mayor Olivia Chow wrote on X.

"This is an early and ongoing investigation - police will provide further details. My thoughts are with the victims and their families."

The number of those injured is high compared to shooting incidents in the area in 2024. Last year, eight people were injured and two killed in shootings and firearm discharges in the police division where Friday's incident occurred, the department's data shows.

In Toronto, which has a three million population, 43 people were killed in shootings last year.

Canada has a lower rate of firearm homicides than its neighbour the US, with 0.6 per 100,000 people compared to 4.5 per 100,000, according to 2021 data from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation. **bbc**

Canadian serial killer's victim found in landfill

The remains of an indigenous woman murdered by a serial killer have been found after a search of a landfill in the Canadian province of Manitoba, police say.

Morgan Harris' remains were recovered at the Prairie Green Landfill, north of the city of Winnipeg, said officials. Authorities had been searching for Harris, 39, and Marcedes Myran, 26, both of Long Plain First Nation. Police say two sets of remains have been found.

Harris and Myran were among four indigenous women killed in 2022 by convicted murderer Jeremy Skibicki, who dumped their bodies in two different landfills over a three-month span.

The search of the Prairie Green Landfill began late last year following a lengthy pressure campaign by indigenous leaders.

Cambria Harris, Morgan's daughter, said in a Facebook post on Friday that the discovery of her mother's remains was a "very bittersweet moment".

"Please keep our families in your hearts tonight and every day going forward as we trust this process," the post said.

Police initially declined to search the landfill, and a federal government study concluded that a search could take three years and cost up to C$184m (£100m; $128m), with workers exposed to hazardous chemicals.



Manitoba eventually pledged C$20m to search for the remains - funds that were matched by the federal government.

Skibicki was convicted in July last year of the murders of Harris and Myran, as well as of killing a third woman, Rebecca Contois, 24, of O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation, and a still-unidentified woman who has been given the name Buffalo Woman.

Their murders went undetected for months until a man looking for scrap metal in a bin outside Skibicki's apartment found partial human remains, identified as belonging to Ms Contois.

Canada has long faced a crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. According to the RCMP, indigenous women make up 10% of the population of missing women in Canada and 16% of female homicides. Indigenous women make up about 4% of the female population in Canada.

bbc

No talks with US under 'maximum pressure' policy: Iran FM

Iran will not resume negotiations with the United States on its nuclear program while President Donald Trump applies his "maximum pressure" policy, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi told AFP on Friday.

Iran will maintain talks with other negotiators but will not engage with the US under Trump's approach of ramping up sanctions, he said in an interview at the Iranian consulate in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Later on Friday, Trump said he had written to Iran warning it to open negotiations or face a military attack.

"I've written them a letter, saying I hope you're going to negotiate because if we have to go in militarily, it's going to be a terrible thing for them," he told Fox Business.

Araghchi also warned against an Israeli attack on Iran and said its nuclear program, which it insists is for civilian purposes, could not be destroyed by military means. **alarabiya**